

“PUTTING YOUTH FIRST IN BIRMINGHAM”

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH

FEBRUARY /2020

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Randall L. Woodfin, Mayor
Galvin Billups, Executive Director

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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 1-15, 2020
RAPUNZEL AND THE RABBIT
Various Times
Birmingham Children’s Theatre

February 7-9, 2020
O’REILLY WORLD OF WHEELS
Various Times
BJCC Exhibition Halls

February 18, 2020
REAL MENTORS TALK
3:30 p.m.
Avondale Branch Library

February 22, 2020
HOMEPLATE HEROES
1:00 p.m.
Negro Southern League Museum

February , 2020
YES! YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SEMINAR
11:30 a.m.
Art of Living Birmingham Center

For more info:
<http://www.bct123.org/>

For more info:
<https://bjcc.org>

For more info:
(205) 226-4000

For more info:
205-581-3040

For More Info:
(205) 370-5842

Birmingham Promise Tuition Assistance Deadline Nears

“Every Birmingham High School student that walks across the stage deserves a college education,” that’s the message Mayor Randall L. Woodfin has spoken since he announced the Birmingham Promise a year ago. Now Birmingham City Schools (BCS) High School Seniors have a chance to cash in on that promise. A critical deadline is approaching for students who would like to take advantage of the program.

Any student planning to attend college in the fall using tuition assistance from the Birmingham Promise must have their FAFSA application completed by

March 1, 2020. Students must also fill out the Birmingham Promise Application online. It can be found at:

<https://www.birminghampromise.org/>

What does the promise cover?

- Birmingham Promise tuition assistance helps Birmingham graduates pay for a college education.
- Students can receive help to attend two-year and four-year colleges in Alabama.
- Birmingham Promise tuition assistance covers needs not met by other scholarships or grants.

Graduating seniors must also be accepted into college by the time they graduate to participate in the Birmingham Promise Tuition Assistance Program.



Colleges have their own admission requirements. Students will need to apply to the schools they want to attend and be accepted by those schools to qualify.

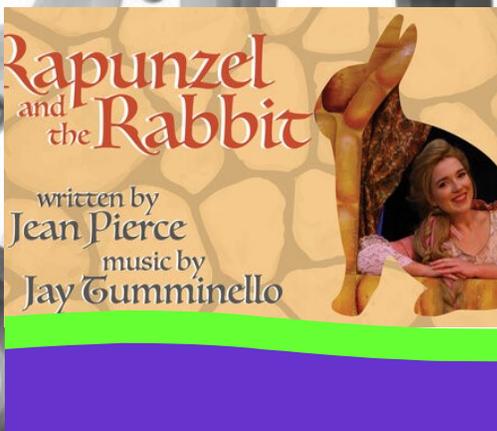
Just Mercy Impacts BCS Students

Nearly 650 BCS high school students faced the real life story of injustice right here in Alabama when they got a chance to experience the new movie, *Just Mercy*. The film follows the story of recent Harvard graduate, Bryan Stevenson (played by Michael B. Jordan) as he heads to Alabama to defend those wrongly condemned or not afforded proper representation. One of his first cases is that of Walter McMillian, who is sentenced to die in 1987 for the murder of an 18-year-old girl, despite evidence proving his innocence. In the years that follow, Stevenson encounters racism and legal and political maneuverings as he tirelessly fights for McMillian's life.

The screening was held on January 17th at the Birmingham Premiere LUX Cinema at no cost to the students. Many were moved to tears during the film. DYS was happy to partner with an anonymous donor, BCS and the Equal Justice Initiative to give students the opportunity to experience this powerful film.



Above: DYS Staff, BCS Superintendent Dr. Lisa Herring and Staff Below: BCS students captivated by *Just Mercy*



Rapunzel and the Rabbit
February 7th– 10th
Birmingham Children's Theatre

The Wee Folks audiences will have a hopping good time with Rapunzel and her newest fluffy friend. Join BCT for this light-hearted, musical tale of bravery and adventure!

For more info:
[CLICK HERE](#)



Big Machines Day
February 15th
McWane Science Center
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Get your motors running and head over to McWane Science Center for a truckload of fun. Spend a constructive day getting up close and personal with some big machines.

For more info:
[CLICK HERE](#)



Beaker Bash
February 29th
McWane Science Center

Have you ever wondered how lightning works? Or why snowflakes never look alike? Find out the answers to questions like these and more at McWane Science Center's biggest party of the year! You are invited to join your favorite meteorologists* as incredible, one-of-a-kind activities rain down all over McWane during this one night only event!

For more info:
[CLICK HERE](#)



Smiling Faces Needed at Project Homeless Connect 2020

February 29th
Boutwell Auditorium

Join DYS, One Roof, Hands On Birmingham, and many other community members in volunteering at this year's Project Homeless Connect on **February 29, 2020!** For one day, Project Homeless Connect will give people experiencing homelessness the opportunity to access an array of services (housing, medical services, identification services, veterans' services, employment services, haircuts, etc.) in a system which is often difficult to understand and navigate.

Volunteer to serve as a Smiling Face, Client Guide.

For more information visit:
<https://uwca.givepulse.com/event/145913-Project-Homeless-Connect-Smiling-Face-Host>

Birmingham Public Library Celebrates Black History Month with 60 programs

The Birmingham Public Library is hosting a variety of Black History Month programs for all ages in February highlighting the contributions of African Americans. Below is a listing by date of some of those featured events. You can find more Black History Month programs by visiting the [BPL seasonal events calendar](#).

[AL Black History with Elinor and Winfield Burks](#)

Monday, February 10, 3:30PM
Ensley Branch Library

Elinor and Winfield Burks will share interesting facts about Alabama black history using visual and interactive activities.

[Creasy, an Enslaved Girl](#)

Tuesday, February 18, 10AM
Pratt City Library

Shirley Ferrill, in her one-woman play, tells the story of her enslaved great-great grandmother. Ferrill has shared her story at venues around Birmingham, including the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.

[African Americans and the Vote](#)

Wednesday, February 19, 3:30PM
Avondale Regional Branch Library

The year 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of the Fifteenth Amendment (1870) which granted African American men the right to vote. It also marks the centennial

celebrate BLACK history MONTH

of the Nineteenth Amendment and the culmination of the women's suffrage movement. The Avondale Library will celebrate this year's Black History Month theme through stories and songs and recognize the struggle for voting rights among African American men and women throughout American history.

[Harriet Tubman Reenactment](#)

Wednesday, February 19, 3:30PM
West End Branch Library

In this powerful event [R. Abayomi Goodall](#) will present a reenactment of Harriet Tubman's abolitionary work. Tubman was born into slavery before escaping and establishing the famed Underground Railroad. Tubman returned to the South 19 times to lead 300 other slaves to freedom.

[Wenonah High School Choir](#)

Tuesday, February 25, 5:30PM
Powderly Branch Library

Sing along with this great choir as they render various editions of Negro spirituals and other selections from African American composers.



Saturday

2/8

10:00AM

COMMUNITY OF READERS: HOW BILLY LEARNED TO PLAY

Snacks, reading and fun with author of "How Billy Learned to Play", Shellie Moore Guy! Children of all ages will have the opportunity to read along with the author and participate in fun activities. Snacks & Refreshments will be served. This is a FREE event and will also include a book fair afterwards that will include book signings, free books and children's activities.

Wednesday

2/12

10:00AM - 5:00PM

ARE YOU FIT TO VOTE?: VOTER REGISTRATION & EDUCATION

Let's make an impact this Black History Month that lasts for much longer than one month. Join us as we partner with Woke Vote for all-day voter registration, literacy tests, voting deterrent education, and giveaways. This event is free and open to the public.

Brothers and Bowties

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the Birmingham Public Library in partnership with DYS hosted *Brothers & Bowties*. Dozens of young men attended the event where young adults ages 11-18 were invited to fellowship and network with influential male role models. This event served as a way for young men in Birmingham to connect with positive influences, receive motivation to persevere through troubles that may arise. The young men also had a place to express themselves freely within an encouraging setting.

Attendees were able to experience a moving speech by author and motivational speaker, Timothy Alexander, who reminded them to stay focused on the vision they have planned for their lives. DYS was happy to assist the Birmingham Public Library in orchestrating this event to further the development of young men in the city!



Upper Right: Timothy Alexander speaks to young men participating in the Brothers and Bowties event

Lower Right: DYS and guest speaker Timothy Alexander

Real Mentors Talk "Conversation with a Cop"

The Birmingham Public Library's Real Mentors Talk program and Birmingham Police Department are partnering to host several programs in which police officers will talk and read to school-age children at six libraries. Real Mentors Talk program was created last fall to allow BPL to partner with organizations and groups desiring to invest in the lives of young children.

"Real Mentors Talk: Conversation with a Cop" is designed to allow Birmingham police officers to speak with older school-age children in select BPL locations about their roles in protecting citizens. The officers will also answer questions from the students.

The program dates for Conversation with a Cop are:
* Tuesday, Feb. 11, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Smithfield Branch Library, 1 8th Ave. West

Thursday, Feb. 13, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Central Library, 2100 Park Place

* Tuesday, Feb. 18, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Avondale Regional Branch Library, 509 40th St. South

The program dates for Reading with a Cop are:

* Tuesday, Feb. 25, 3:30-4:30 p.m., East Lake Branch Library, 5 Oporto Madrid Blvd.

* Thursday, Feb. 27, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Inglenook Branch Library, 4100 40th Terrace North

* Tuesday, March 3, 3:30-4:30 p.m., North Avondale Branch Library, 501 43rd St. North

To learn more about the program visit:

[CLICK HERE](#)

THE BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY AND BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESENT

REAL MENTORS TALK



FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

CONVERSATION WITH A COP

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 3:30-4:30 PM • SMITHFIELD BRANCH, 1 8TH AVE W
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 3:30-4:30 PM • CENTRAL, 2100 PARK PL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 3:30-4:30 PM • AVONDALE BRANCH, 509 40TH ST S

READING WITH A COP

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 3:30-4:30 PM • EAST LAKE BRANCH, 5 OPORTO MADRID BLVD
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 3:30-4:30 PM • INGLENOOK BRANCH, 4100 40TH TER N
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 3:30-4:30 PM • NORTH AVONDALE BRANCH, 501 43RD ST N



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.COBPL.ORG

Voluntary Pre-K Program Pre-Registration Underway



Alabama's nationally recognized First Class Pre-K programs are now accepting pre-registration applications for the 2020 - 2021 school year. To participate, each child must **provide a birth certificate** documenting that he/she is 4 years old (and not yet 5) on or before September 1, 2020 and must also be an Alabama resident (documented with **proof of residence** such as a current utility bill or copy of a lease or mortgage) throughout enrollment.

Applying places your child in the Alabama First Class Pre-K random selection process.

To learn more or to register: <https://children.alabama.gov/pre-registration/>

DYS and BBBS Recognized at Birmingham City Council Meeting

Mentoring is a positive, supportive relationship, encouraging young people to develop to their fullest potential. Mentoring can make a profound difference in the lives of mentees by fostering professional and personal development, that in turn strengthens our communities, economy and country.

National Mentoring Month is held every January to spotlight mentoring throughout the U.S. DYS staff members serve as mentors to several P.D. Jackson Olin High School students through the Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) workplace mentoring program. On Tuesday, January 28, 2020, Mayor Randall L. Woodfin announced a proclamation naming January as National Mentoring Month in Birmingham and recognized DYS as well as UAB and their mentees during the Birmingham City Council meeting.

To learn more about how you can get involved through the BBBS Organization, visit: <http://www.bbbsbhm.org/become-a-big/>

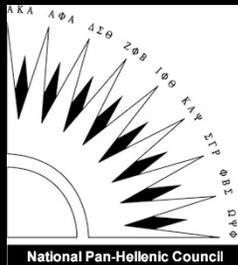


DYS, Big Brothers and Big Sisters Staff along with "Littles," and Mayor Woodfin at City council visit, January 28, 2020

NPHC Scholarship Applications Available Now

Deadline: May 1, 2020

The National Pan-Hellenic Council is the governing body of the nine historically African-American fraternities and sororities. These organizations are committed to scholarship, community service and cultural enrichment. NPHC affiliates and their respective members have pledged to devote their resources to service in their communities as well as a lifetime commitment to the goals and ideals of each organization. In said commitment to scholarship, community service and cultural enrichment, the National Pan-Hellenic Council awards scholarships to graduating seniors that exemplify high academic achievement, leadership, and involvement within the community.



Students can now apply for the scholarship.

For more information contact: NPHCBirmingham@gmail.com

Regions Riding Forward Scholarship Essay Contest

Deadline: February 29, 2020

Who Inspires You? Write about an African-American who has inspired and motivated you for the opportunity to earn a \$5,000 or \$3,500 scholarship in celebration of Black History Month and those who have inspired the next generation to make history.



Regions will award \$5,000 scholarships to 15 high school seniors who live in states with Regions branches and will attend an accredited college in the U.S. during the 2020-2021 academic school year. Regions will award \$3,500 scholarships to 15 freshmen, sophomores or juniors who permanently reside in, or currently attend an accredited college in, states with Regions branches and will attend an accredited college in the U.S. during the 2020-2021 academic school year.

To learn more visit: <https://www.regions.com/promo/black-history-scholarship>

"ALL GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS REQUIRE TIME."

-MAYA ANGELOU



Latest news and Events

01

World of Wheels

February 7th - 9th
@ BJCC

The World of Wheels features a wide variety of custom cars, custom trucks and custom motorcycles as well as restored and antique vehicles. Our exhibitors, our vendors and tens of thousands of spectators make these annual shows informative, exciting, and fun!

For More Info:

<http://worldofwheels.net/>

02

Home Plate Heroes

February 22nd @ Negro Southern League Museum

In celebration of Black History Month and honor of 100 Years of Negro League History, the NSLM is presenting Home Plate Heroes. This original stage production tells the story of the unsung heroes of baseball's Negro and Industrial Leagues. This event is family-friendly and FREE. Food will be available for purchase from local food trucks.

For More Info:

<http://www.birminghamnslm.org/event/home-plate-heroes/>

03

AHSAA Basketball State Championship

February 25th— March 2nd @ BJCC at Legacy Arena

The AHSAA Basketball state finals, formerly known as the final 48, is one of the of the top high school basketball championships events in the country. For more info:

<https://statefinalsal.com/>

Mercedes Marathon

February 14-16, 2020
Railroad Park

Mercedes Marathon Weekend is one of the premiere racing weekends in the Southeast. It includes five races, leading up to the Mercedes Marathon.

Friday, February 14th
12:00 p.m. —7:00 p.m.

Entrance into the Race Expo is free to the public and includes 40 plus vendors with some great running gear/accessories and other fun items. Race packet pickup for our 5K, Half, Full and Marathon Relay takes place on the auditorium stage passed the vendors. Kids Marathon packet pickup is located in the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama expo booth.

Saturday, February 15th

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.: Regions Superhero 5K - Railroad Park

10:00 a.m.: The Bell Center EIP Children's Run - Railroad Park.

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama Kids Mercedes Marathon - Railroad Park.

5th graders will begin at 11:00 a.m. followed by each descending grade in 10 minute increments.

Sunday, February 17th

7:03 a.m.: Mercedes Marathon, Half Marathon and Marathon Relay **begin on 14th St., S. near Good People Brewery and 1st Ave. North.**

The Half Marathon has a four hour time limit. The Marathon have a six hour time limit. All Sunday events benefit the children at The Bell Center For Early Intervention Programs.

For more information visit:

<https://www.mercedesmarathon.com>



Red Mountain Theatre Company Presents The Gershwins Porgy and Bess

February 1 –17, 2019
RMT Cabaret Theatre
Thurs—Sat, 7:30 p.m.
Sat.—Sun., 2:00 p.m.

Known worldwide as a masterpiece and "An American Folk Opera," Porgy and Bess was George Gershwin's final work for the musical stage. Based on Dubose and Dorothy Heyward's play Porgy,

Porgy and Bess combines elements of jazz, classical and American folk music.

Set in an impoverished, Depression-era African American community in South Carolina called "Catfish Row," it details the relationship between Porgy, a disabled street beggar and Bess, a woman suffering drug and physical abuse.

It's a story that is tied with economic setbacks, tragic deaths, lost loves, injustice, faith, love and community.

For more information visit:

<https://redmountaintheatre.org>

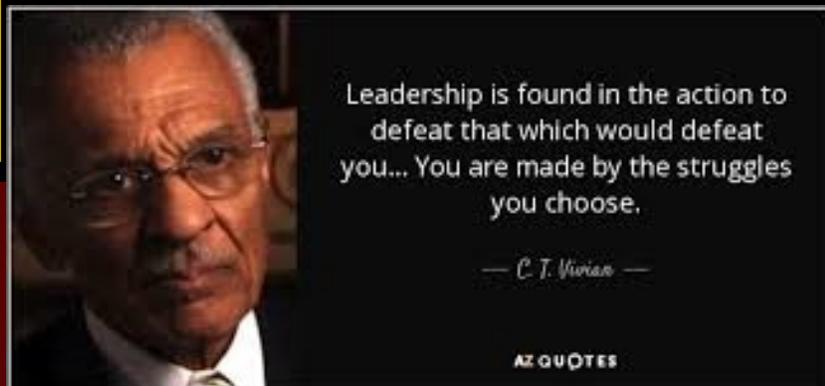
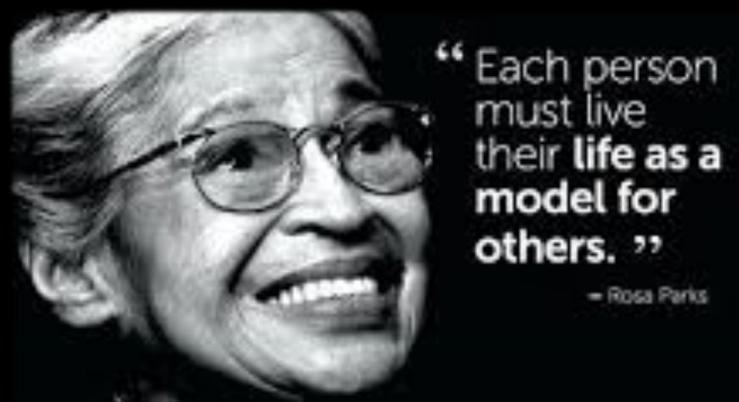
Black History Month 2020



The story of Black History Month begins in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States. That September, the Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson and the prominent minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by black Americans and other peoples of African descent.

Known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the group sponsored a national Negro History week in 1926, choosing the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures.

To learn more about Black History Month, visit: <http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-month>



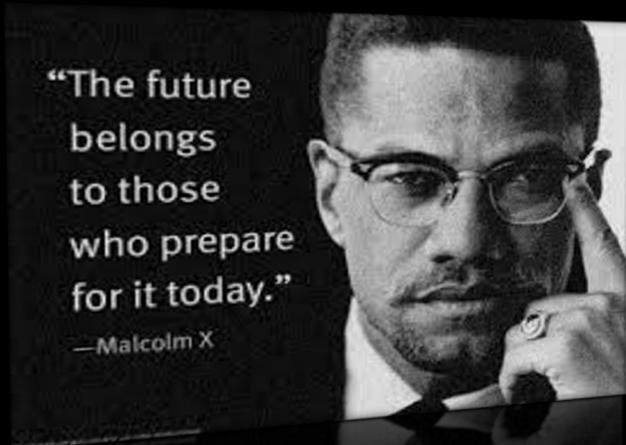
Creative Valentines Day Ideas

Celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14th with Activity Village's selection of Valentine crafts, coloring, puzzles, jokes, cards, jigsaws and printable activities for kids!

You'll find the colors red and pink and hearts galore, and all sorts of Valentine's Day activities to keep your kids busy - enough for a week of Valentine's Days!

Check out these sweet ideas:

<http://www.womansday.com/home/crafts-projects/g2138/valentines-day-crafts-for-kids/>





FOR KIDS

Name: _____

Black History Matching

_____ ()

- Entrepreneur
- _____
- 1st Female Self-Made Millionaire

_____ ()

- Inventor who held more than 50 patents
- Created a communication device for trains & streetcars

Serena Williams ()

- _____
- Only woman to win \$40+ million in prize money
- 30 Grand Slam titles

Duke Ellington ()

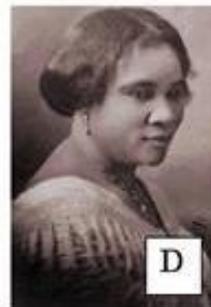
- Composer, pianist & big-band leader (orchestra)
- Famous for making jazz a popular American artform

_____ ()

- Abolitionist, humanitarian
- _____
- Fought for women's suffrage

Malcolm X ()

- _____
- Civil Rights Activist
- Famous For: "By any means necessary"



E
Professional tennis player

G.
Harriet Tubman



K.
Madam C. J. Walker

M.
Philanthropist

B.
Led slaves to freedom in Underground Railroad



H.
Muslim Minister

I.
Granville Woods



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MAYOR RANDALL L. WOODFIN

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